

The Wichita Daily Eagle

M. M. MURDOCK, EDITOR.

IT IS LOOMING UP AGAIN, SURE.

Despite the universal experience, if not of overwhelming conviction, that times have proved unprecedently prosperous during the past few years under the protective tariff of the Republican party, there are to be found those who are anxious to reverse the present order. Probably at no time in the history of the country have the people of the United States so prospered, at no time has the nation as a whole expanded so rapidly commercially, or accumulated wealth so rapidly. Notwithstanding such a universal prosperity upon the part of the people, and of such a massing of wealth; notwithstanding the acknowledged fact that all the world is now dreading American competition and along all lines, there are those who would take the chances of about-facing back to the conditions under Cleveland's second administration. The cry of "free trade" or tariff for revenue only, is becoming more audible every day and societies are being formed for forcing the issue into the next national campaign. The American Free Trade League is probably the most formidable in this movement. Their motto of "equal rights to all, special privileges to none," has more sound than sense. No one stands out against such a policy. Protection means equal rights to all, and very special privileges and numberless increased advantages to everybody. As a rule the prosperity of one means the advantage of many. The crippling or the curtailing of leading interest or enterprise in any community means the repression of every member of such community. The failure of one interest embarrasses all others. The shutting up factories not only shuts out the operators, but ruins the farmers' market. A crop failure in crippling the farmer increases the burden of everybody else. The specious plea of the Free Trade League that it is the foe of monopolies is demagogic. Everybody is opposed to monopoly, save the monopolist himself who has no choice between free trade and protection so long as he can maintain his monopoly, except in this, that if he is a level-headed man undoubtedly he must know that with the general prosperity which is enhanced by protection there will be a greater demand for his product, and at a higher price. The Standard Oil combine in being the greatest single monopoly of this age is not materially affected by the tariff one way or the other, only as the protective policy results in a greater number of cash paying consumers. Prosperity, or good times in meaning more money to be invested and to be spent in just so far provides for its own sustenance. As protection means prosperity, therefore free trade and depression, in the absence of any proof that wealth-makers are more to be dreaded than hard times and an empty stomach.

THE STREAM OF HOMESSEKERS.

The sale of lands and farms in Southwest Kansas has, for three months, been unprecedented by any winter of the past. This is true of Oklahoma and probably also of Texas. And now before winter has even ceased the stream of new settlers has set in and in a wonderful way. A whole train-load of Swedes, with their families and all their belongings, live-stock and farming implements, included, arrived at Emporia day before yesterday. These families, numbering seventeen, will take possession of lands which had already been selected and purchased. The Kansas City papers note that the union station at that point is daily overflowing with homeseekers who are waiting railway connections and who for the most part are on their way to Southwest Kansas and Oklahoma. They are from as far north as Canada and from as far east as Maine. The bulk of this stream of homeseekers are farmers. The next census of Kansas is going to show a most gratifying if not establishing increase in population as the assessment rolls will on wealth.

IT WAS A FAILING POLITICAL GAME.

The boss busters are themselves a badly busted lot of bosses. One of their leaders who was counted on becoming a lead boss next November, failed, last week, to carry his own county. The others who expected to become bosses as soon as they should have busted the balance of the old bosses must by this time be feeling somewhat discouraged. So far the Republican primary elections held for the selection of delegates to the State and Congressional conventions, prove that a majority of Republicans have no sympathy with the boss busting business, and no use for the men who want to bust bosses only that they might succeed to the vacant positions. As the Kansas City Star observes, "Kansas had no bosses in the sense that New York is dominated by Platt or Pennsylvania by Quay. The individuality of the average Kansan is too proud to submit to dictation. He is great on canvas and for consultation. He must be a factor himself and so recognized when it comes to laying down rules, enforcing policies, and conferring rewards. The 'outs' who want to be the 'ins' had better fall into line before they have been formally left out in the cold."

MISS STONE ON THE PLATFORM.

As facetiously asserted by the newspapers and as solemnly believed by about everybody, Miss Stone, the renowned missionary, is going to take the platform. Her excuse for abandoning the poor heathen to their fate is her desire to make money enough to repay those who gave the brigands \$12,000 for her release. The chances are that she would have taken the platform anyway. Her lecture course of five weeks is to be under the management of Chautauque societies. Miss Stone is expected to arrive in America in May and to commence her lecture tour the last week in June.

AS TO KANSAS WHEAT CONDITIONS.

Putting our own observations and experience together with various conflicting reports from the great wheat belt of Kansas, the conclusion is arrived at that it will prove the part of wisdom to wait about a month before announcing conclusions. Upon the whole the north and west sections of the belt is making a better showing at this time than the counties in the north and east sections, which latter includes Oklahoma. The soft wheat fared the worst by dry-cold. We guess that is undisputed. But for the crop as a whole, we guess that the wheat acreage may have to be plowed up and put in corn this

1st of April will afford a better opportunity for correctly estimating. The St. Louis Modern Miller has this to say of the Kansas wheat crop:

"Just at this time of the year discrepancies as to the condition of the growing crop occur. For instance, from one county in Kansas comes a report from a farmer who is considered an authority on such matters, that the wheat has been greatly damaged by the drouth and cold weather, and from another source, equally reliable, and from the same locality, the news that the crop has wintered well and no damage has been discovered. It's up to the reader which to believe. Again, at this season, all manner of reports are spread, which, when traced, are found to emanate from parties interested in the speculative markets. Prior to the snow which has covered the wheat fields for some weeks, the ground was very dry and dusty, and, in some parts, high winds prevailed which have blown enough dirt from around the roots of the wheat to leave them exposed to the freezing weather. Damage may have resulted from this. As to the question of moisture, it requires an average of ten inches of snow to equal one of rain. Reports show that the precipitation in the winter wheat area for the last two months was one third less than normal, and although melting snows have soaked the ground pretty well, some anxiety as to whether this will be sufficient to carry the plant along, is felt. With a continuance of the present open weather, it will soon be ascertained what, if any, damage has resulted. The majority of reports concur that wheat has wintered well and that with ample moisture in March, the prospects will be good."

ROOSEVELT'S RAILROAD BOMB.

President Roosevelt has given the railroad management of the entire country to understand the interstate commerce and the Sherman laws will be enforced to the letter, says the Chicago Record-Herald. The information has been conveyed through the medium of the Interstate Commerce Commission, and it is understood that the administration will not favor any amendment to the law until the present laws have been enforced and the result noted.

The Record-Herald asserts that the new order of things has caused consternation among the executive officials of roads centering in Chicago, and all are engaged in the work of "cleaning house." Huddled consultations have resulted in the decision that all associations and organizations which are in violation of the laws involved must be done away with and every effort made to show that the roads purpose handling traffic free of pools, agreements or cut rates.

The first move in this direction is the dissolution of the Council Bluffs, Omaha and Sioux City committee, of which George H. Bistine is in charge. It is understood that the Kansas City committee will soon be dissolved. Unless the commission insists on it, nothing will be done with the Western Trunk Line committee at present, nor with the various passenger associations which are in violation of the Sherman law.

Similar action will be taken by the lines east of Chicago, and bureaus in the charge of Chairman Tucker will probably be abolished. Railroad officials are not a unit regarding the character of the action necessary, but a large number of them believe that all organizations will soon be done away with. Attention is called to the fact that if everything is to be handled on tariff schedules there will be little use for associations or "statistical" bureaus, as some of them are called.

TAKING CHANCES.

The average man takes appalling risks, and it is simply good fortune which enables him to so often escape a violent death. A few days ago two men who were driving along a suburban road came to a familiar crossing at which five persons had been killed within a year or two. The bell which gives warning of the approach of trains was ringing and several persons warned the men not to attempt to cross the tracks. It seemed an easy thing to cross the tracks before the distant train should come, and they scorned the warnings. Only the horse escaped, the men being mangled beyond recognition. Rather than lose a minute or two of time they risked their lives and lost them. This is a characteristic incident. It is a common thing for persons to attempt to cross the streets with a trolley car almost upon them, and for men to leap on a trolley car when it is in motion. Not one man in a thousand who goes to a hotel thinks to ask whether it is equipped with fire escapes. People crowd the theaters without inquiry as to exits. They trust to the efficiency of the official inspectors to see that all the requirements are properly met. Every summer excursion steamers are overloaded, and the public, in spite of frequent evidence of the habitual neglect of the authorities, never inquires whether the life-saving appliances are adequate.

In the last ten years seventy-nine lives have been lost in three hotel fires in New York alone. The hotel holocaust has created a popular demand for greater efficiency on the part of the authorities whose business it is to see that the people are as well protected as the laws require. There is no reason to think the authorities will be more exacting and vigilant, except for a short time.

After each excursion steamship disaster there is a loud appeal to the government inspectors to be more watchful for evasions of the law. There is an overhauling of the old life-preservers which will not float, and for a few weeks mercenary captains are prevented from overcrowding their vessels. In a little time, however, the matter passes out of the public mind, and once more the people take chances and trust to luck.

One of the dangers of the Democratic party is that its orators are liable to forget all other issues in emphasizing the fact that under a protective tariff some American-made goods sell cheaper abroad than at home.

In an Indiana town the children all walked into the school, got their books and walked out again, because the teachers ride on non-union street cars. Great Jehoshaphat!

The "Well! well! well!" man got in his work on Henry at Milwaukee when Henry complimented the women. It must have jarred Henry a little.

Moody of Massachusetts is to succeed Long as Secretary of the Navy. Massachusetts will get to thinking that it owns the navy.

It will be an exceedingly good thing if the House knocks out the bill to put rural mail carriers under the contract system.

General De Wet, in a recent fight, was shot in the arm. But he will come out all right. No famous surgeons are near.

Rebellion in China is again sticking out its forked tongue. The dragon ought to gobble a few of its own snakes.

Emperor William was not displeased with the familiar tone of Miss Alice Roosevelt's cablegram. Ah, we breathe again!

And Prince Henry told Milwaukee that it was famous for its thrift and industry, neither of which has foam on it.

This is a great world for the great to go awailing. Loubet of France is now to drop over to see the Czar.

The Boers have as much grit as any people in the world. Think of the fight they put up the other day.

Maryland is to permit women to practice as lawyers. This is a long step for Maryland.

ONE OF THE OTHER HALF.

As you look at that part of the residence district of the big city from one point of view, the first three words of John Galsworthy's brilliant poem, "The City Streets," come into mind: "The City Streets." Change your position only thirty yards and the truth of the last three words is proved: "No, not quiet; a city where peace is best."

In one great city, of which we know more than any other, are to be found side by side the extremes of social conditions. The pile of gray granite holding within its walls everything of luxury throws its shadow over the hovel of the poorest. In many cases the millionaire's nearest neighbor is a wash-crowder. Conditions of rapid urban growth account for a state of affairs that has no counterpart in other American cities.

There was to be a ball that night. The invitations had come out from a hostess who had for a long time been making a study of the city. It was the only occasion on which she was to entertain that winter. Never a fear that the hidden wealth of the city would come and that she would have to be a searching of the highways and byways. That ball was talked for weeks. Safe to say no before had been shown there which ever before had been shown there.

Madame Modiste of Hillary street had none but fashionable customers. Mme. Modiste made "dream" gowns. She could make any dress that the imagination could suggest. Her art the late became plump and the plump lean. Her garments gave the carriage of an aristocrat to the poorest of the poor. The gown that Mme. Modiste was like love; she put the shepherd's crook beside the scepter. Mme. Modiste was a kind-hearted soul, but she was chronically hard up. She cut and fitted, and her seamstresses did the rest. She always paid them at the end of the month, when the money was due, though often she had to "serenade" to do it, for some of her patrons had a habit of asking her to call next month, when the bills were presented.

For a long time she had no money. It was the day before the ball to which only the best were invited. She had finished a gown, a creation of lace and loveliness. For one of the fortunate ones who had been "commanded" to dance. The gown was to be delivered at 6 o'clock that day, the day before the ball, at Miss Majorbanks' residence on William street.

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OUTLINES OF OKLAHOMA.

Last week eighty-two attorneys were admitted to the practice of law in Lawton. Blackwell's latest enumeration shows that she has nine hundred and seventy-six school children.

Some of the negroes have ceased to be shocked because the government conducted a "lottery" at El Reno.

The B. & O. line still exists, as a construction company, and will continue to extend the Blackwell-El Reno line.

The Blackwell News predicts that the west and the southwest will name the next Democratic congressional candidate.

Blackwell will adopt an ordinance compelling the systematic planting, cultivation and irrigation of forest trees in the city.

The postoffice location fight at Blackwell has been settled. The postoffice will remain in the business portion of the town.

The Perkins Journal has opened its columns to a discussion as to whether or not Oklahoma should sell or retain her school lands.

One by one the Democratic newspapers are coming to the conclusion that Flynn will not be a candidate. And it is making them feel good.

The city council of Blackwell has taken steps to improve the fire protection of the city. Five hundred feet of additional hose will be purchased.

The great wonder is that Reverend Anderson, of El Reno, didn't, if he felt impelled to make the change, do so quietly, as he should have done.

Bob Neff notes that the Blackwell school board will turn the small hog house on May 25—just at the beginning of the autumn season.

Senator Stevens of Idaho points out that in case a statehood bill passes this session, the elected delegates to congress would likely be congressional for the campaign he would have to make.

The men who are giving up the Oklahoma Day club met at Oklahoma City Tuesday evening at P. Larson, of El Reno, presided. Frank Wells, Judge A. H. Chace, Dick Morgan and Frank Greer made speeches favoring the club, and it was decided to hold the first banquet April 25.

The first grand jury at Lawton, Judge McAlister is now holding court. One of the following gentlemen, who will pass down in history: W. S. Root, L. L. Norman, W. H. Norman, H. Vezich, William Sauer, A. P. Knappe, Hanson Payne, J. H. O. Young, C. P. McCarty, F. M. Stanley, Meeker, T. H. Records, D. A. Jacobs, Bert Howard, L. Gunn.

Business must be pretty brisk in Lawton, as the Lawton News in an item demonstrates. It says: "The other day Dan Rice was in need of change, and being busy, handed a \$10 gold certificate to a young man standing by to step over to a neighboring house and get the change. Thinking after some time or three minutes that he might have been mistaken in the one to whom he handed it, he began to inquire, hearing to his sorrow, also to his loss, that his boy and money were both gone. He is now in mourning because he did not take time to get the change himself."

The following thrilling series of incidents is related by the Field Eagle: A lively scrap occurred at the Rock Island depot, during the morning, between some members of the "Thoroughbred" tramp company and Walter Brown, Fred Brown and John Kelley. The trouble arose over the settlement of a bill for transferring baggage. The manager of the company claiming that the bill was exorbitant, and not according to contract. Walter Brown, owner and manager of the transfer company, declared that he was not overcharging the show company. The manager then flatly refused to pay the bill. Brown started to attack the company's baggage, but found that it was already checked. Another demand for payment brought out the invitation to "come and take it." This the Browns boys and Kelley were proceeding to do, when a stranger intervened, claiming to be a sheriff. His authority was questioned, and he produced a gun to back it up. The sight of the gun restored comparative peace for a few seconds, during which time the show manager, yielding to his wife's advice, paid the bill. Then Sheriff Porter arrived on the scene, and after making a few inquiries, arrested the man with the gun. He proved to be a deputy sheriff from Blaine county, and as he had no authority here, he was held on a charge of carrying concealed weapons. No other arrests were made, and the show company was allowed to proceed on its way. No one was seriously hurt in the fray, although several were knocked down, and a number of the participants fell off the platform onto the track, and came near being run over by a freight train. The deputy sheriff was arrested in probate court, held guilty and was fined \$5.

Next year's local campaign in Topeka is still raging hotly.

The Kansas delegation in Washington is again after Henry Clay Evans' job.

Down in Panama the other day a man was fined \$2.50 for stealing a ride on a train.

Geo. Innes & Co.

Newest Designs

The Wash Goods section continues to win new victories day after day. Counters, shelves and tables are luxuriously crowded with the daintiest and most fetching of spring and summer lines. Individual Waist Patterns in yesterday.

Dressmaking Parlors

Will open tomorrow. Employees of this department last season are requested to apply early this morning in regard to positions for this season.

\$105.00 Outfit Free

On the day of our 27th Annual Vehicle Opening we will give away, absolutely free,

- One \$75.00 Henney Full-leather Top Buggy
- One \$15.00 Set of Fine Single Buggy Harness
- One \$12.00 Fine Fur Lap Robe
- One \$3.00 Driving Whip

Any one living in Sedgwick county or within fifteen miles of Wichita, or any customers over sixteen years of age, can register at our place of business. Books are now open. It will cost you nothing to register and have a chance in the drawing, which will take place on our Opening day—date of which will be announced later. Watch for date. For further information call and see us. We have

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In the city. We have made special efforts to secure the latest and best from all the leading manufacturers for our Spring trade. They are now here and we are rolling them out every day.

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I had rheumatism very bad for two years. A friend said: "It must be in your blood. Just get some Ripans Tablets and then take them steady for about a month and I'll wager you will be well." Thanks to my friend, I have not an ache now. I am the mother of seven children and I give Ripans to all of them.

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The Five-Cent Package is enough for an ordinary occasion.
The Family Bottle, sixty cents, contains a supply for a year.

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